

CELEBRATING THE HEART OF THE TRAIL CAMPAIGN

One year ago, we asked what it would take to seize a generational opportunity to advance trail protection while putting the trail, backcountry zones, and our growing programs on secure footing for the next decade. What followed was the Heart of the Trail campaign, the first capital campaign in the CTA's forty-year history.

The outpouring of support has been humbling, and thanks to the CTA community, we have nearly reached our goal one year later! Though much work remains to fully protect the trail from Blueberry Hill Inn to von Trapp Family Lodge, implement projects, and further expand youth and community programs, we have already begun making meaningful progress toward achieving the goals of the campaign.

Thanks to you, we now have the resources to see it through and to make Vermont's backcountry more fun, climate-resilient, and accessible to everyone in the coming years.

With gratitude,
 Matt Williams
 CTA Executive Director



TOTAL DONORS: 424

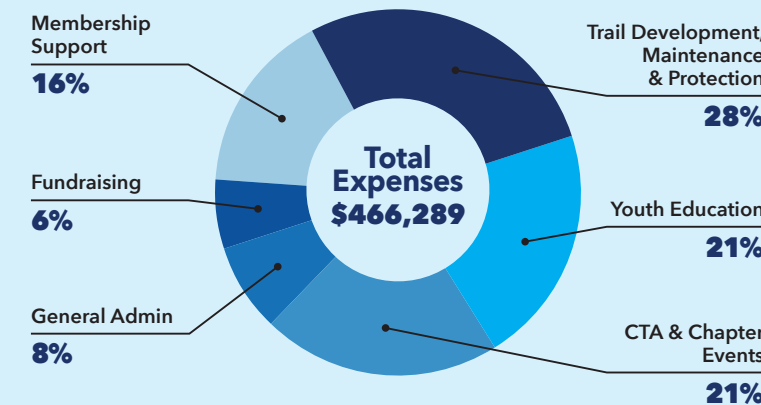
First-Time Donors: **11%**



OPERATING REVENUE



OPERATING EXPENSES



The Catamount Trail Association is a 501(c)(3) organization. This financial information is unaudited. Once completed, final financial statements and accompanying auditor's report will be available on request.



JOIN - VOLUNTEER - DONATE

Our Mission

The Catamount Trail Association's mission is to expand access to Vermont's backcountry and expand equitable access to skiing. Through building trails, community, and opportunity we connect people to Vermont's mountain landscape.

Catamount Trail Staff

Matthew Williams, Executive Director
 Courtney Dickerson, Trail and Programs Director
 Asha DiMatteo-LePape, Business Manager

Kim Quinlan, Communications and Engagement Manager
 Kinsley Holl, Programs and Engagement Coordinator

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2025-26 SEASON ANNUAL REPORT



Photo courtesy of Jay Stearns



WHO WE ARE

The CTA community of members, volunteers, skiers, supporters, partners, and so many others are ALL an integral part of our success.

We maintain over 100 active partnerships to support trail access and programming statewide, including:

School & Community Partners	39	Agency & Municipal Partners	12
Non-profit partners	13	Foundation Support	6
Ski Center Partners	9	Industry Partners	20+

5 CTA STAFF

8 BACKCOUNTRY CHAPTERS

2,245 MEMBERS

175+ CTA & CHAPTER VOLUNTEERS

250+ PRIVATE LANDOWNERS

Dutch Hill Backcountry Tour. Photo courtesy of Art Patten.

OUR IMPACT

By stewarding the Catamount Trail and world-class backcountry terrain, conserving the mountain lands on which backcountry skiing depends, and running programs that expand access to skiing, we build community and foster connection to Vermont's landscape. These are some of the highlights of our work over the last year.



CTA & Chapter volunteers contributed 2,900+ hours to trail maintenance and projects during 65+ trail days in 2025.



TRAILS AND TERRAIN

Trail work was highlighted by the construction of a **new side trail to access Section 19** of the Catamount Trail in Huntington, and the long-awaited approval of the Old Callahan Backcountry Zone, a **new managed backcountry zone** in Camels Hump State Park in Duxbury.

9 Backcountry Zones Maintained	335 Miles of Trail Maintained	29 Easements Stewarded
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New trail easement with Blueberry Hill Inn, part of the Heart of the Trail corridor.

Nordic Backcountry Clinic at Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center, Goshen, VT. Photo courtesy of Jay Stearns.

CONSERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP

In 2026, CTA staff continued the important work of stewarding private landowners and developing trail protection projects to ensure access to Vermont's backcountry, highlighted by a **new easement** with Blueberry Hill Inn. Staff also had **over 30 meetings** and conducted **13 site visits** with landowners and partner organizations to develop new trail protection projects. As a result of that work, **5 projects** are in the final stages of completion.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

A critical aspect of our mission is getting people outside and helping connect them with the ski and ride community here in Vermont, especially those who may not otherwise have those opportunities available to them.

We offered a variety of programs and events across Vermont during the 2025-26 season, including:

29 volunteer-guided tours, **2** Intro to Backcountry Clinics (AT/Tele/Split), **3** Intro to Nordic Backcountry Clinics, **3** film night fundraisers, a Community Ski Day with Winterville, where CTA staff and volunteers helped get over **50** people out on cross-country skis, along with other local event collaborations.

Multi-Day & Single-Day Tour Participants	424
Community Event Participants	400

"I am honored to collaborate with, and play a role in, the long-term protection of the Catamount Trail. Supporting the protection of even a small segment of trail helps to ensure that future generations can experience the same sense of discovery, recreation, and connection to nature that we all need. The Catamount Trail is a lasting investment in both the landscape and the community, and I am proud to have played a small part in preserving it for years to come."

Shari B., Blueberry Hill Landowner

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Winter 2026 was certainly one for the books! We added **450** new students and **7** new schools to our program, which is now offered in **30** communities across Vermont.

This season marked the 15th anniversary for our Saturday **Ski Cubs** program, which primarily serves BIPOC students from **15 schools** in the greater Burlington area.



Over 6% of 3rd through 8th graders in Vermont ski with us!



2K+ Youth Programs Participation	12 of 14 Counties with Youth Programs Offered	114 Youth Program Days Offered
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"We had so much fun with this program, and hope we can join you again next year. My child went from being completely opposed to cross-country skiing to loving it even more than downhill. We're so grateful to the CTA and volunteers for making it happen!"

Anna T, Ski Cubs Parent